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Jordan welcomes Saudi remarks

AMMAN (R) — Jordan on Tuesday welcomed a Saudi statement backing the Middle East peace process, saying it would boost the Arab stand in peace negotiations with Israel. "We welcome the Saudi Arabia stand and the statement made by an authoritative Saudi source on the Kingdom's support for peace in the Middle East," Information Minister Jawad Al Amari said. Saudi Arabia issued a statement on Thursday in support of the current Middle East peace negotiations but there was no direct reference to Jordan which signed a declaration in July ending a 46-year state of belligerence with Israel. Dr. Amari said Riyadh had a vital role to play in the peace process due to its role as a regional power. He said the Saudi will be more felt when discussing economic cooperation among Middle East states. "We see a variation in Saudi Arabia's regional role, and since it is a neighbour to Jordan, this provides a chance to support the position of the Arab negotiator."

Volume 18 Number 5690

AMMAN WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 17, 1994, RABI' ALAWAL 10, 1415

Price: Jordan 150 Fils

Jordan, Israel sign trade deal for W. Bank market

\$30m in private sector exports in 1994

AMMAN (I.T.) — Jordan and Israel on Tuesday initialled an agreement allowing Jordan to export \$30 million worth of commodities to the occupied West Bank during 1997.

The agreement was signed following two days of intensive bilateral negotiations between the Jordanian and Israeli private sectors.

He did not specify the goods which Jordan would sell but they range from steel and other building materials to baby nappies.

Jordanian officials said Israel restricted the trade volume because it feared the cheaper Jordanian goods might find their way to its market.

"This agreement is initial under which terms the quantities of goods and the way of transporting them into the West Bank are defined," he said.

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Middle East News

JORDAN TIMES, WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 17, 1994

Rival factions challenge

Rabbani north of Kabul

DOSHI, Afghanistan (AFP) — The military jeep swerved to pass a huge, grey-painted steel tube with Russian markings that was buried deep in the side of the road — the empty casing of a deadly cluster bomb.

"The jet attacked us early this morning, and showered the hills up there behind Doshi," explained our escort, describing the release of scores of bomblets from this multiple warhead.

Doshi, a small district centre about 190 kilometres north of Kabul, was captured a month ago by a combined attacking force made up mainly of Uzbek fighters and militia from the Ismaelia religious sect.

Except for a few families, Doshi, once 20,000-strong, is now a ghost town. The civilians have fled and the shops are shuttered, though many show signs of having been looted.

Baba Khan, aged about 65, was seen supervising the loading of a truck with bundles of his family's belongings for evacuation north to district centre Pul-e-Khumi.

"What else can we do? There is nothing for us here except continuous rocket and jet bombardment," he told AFP.

An attack led by Sayyed Jaffar Naderi, youthful governor of Pul-e-Khumi and son of the Ismaelia spiritual leader, pushed Afghan President Burhanuddin Rabbani's defending troops about five kilometres back down the main road from Doshi, but the fight goes on.

Mr. Jaffar, 35, whose penchant for Western rock music equals his flair for the traditional Afghan sport of Buzkashi — a cross between football and wrestling played on horseback with a headless goat in place of a ball — vowed never to lose Doshi again.

"They will never take it back. Doshi is my home. I will fight for it to my death," Mr. Jaffar declared.

Besides its value as a

strategic post on the main northern highway connecting Kabul with the northern Afghan provinces, Doshi is important to Jaffar because it controls the entrance to the adjacent Kyan Valley, site of his ancestral home, where his father Sayyed Mansour Naderi still resides.

Mr. Jaffar's tanks guard the vital bridge which sits at the entrance to both Doshi and the Kyan Valley, but the bulk of his fighting force are on top of the surrounding mountains.

"In Afghanistan, in a fight, whoever controls the high ground will be the winner," asserts Mr. Jaffar.

He said the recapture of Doshi after four months of occupation by pro-Rabbani forces was achieved by an outflanking manoeuvre made possible by bulldozing a road to the top of the high peaks west of Doshi, then stationing tanks and heavy artillery there.

After a bitter fight of several more days, Doshi's bazaar fell.

Mr. Jaffar claimed to have captured 34 prisoners, four tanks, two armoured personnel carriers, many AK-47 assault rifles and more than 10 cannon and heavy machine-guns, which he has turned against their former operators. But the enemy still has plenty of landmines.

"Thirteen of my lads have lost legs to their mines, mostly Russian-made PMN blast mines," said Mr. Jaffar in protest of this method of warfare.

There will be no early end to the fighting in this region, as Mr. Jaffar vows to push on down the road from Doshi to the settlement of Khenjan, some 20 odd kilometres distant, which he also wants to regain from pro-Rabbani forces.

"What we want is the return of all our traditional places. Khenjan belongs to us. We will take this place back," the Ismaelia commander announced firmly.

Perry: U.S. troops to Golan Heights possible

WASHINGTON (USA) — Defense Secretary William Perry says if Syria and Israel reach a peace agreement requiring third-country forces, "the U.S. would be a candidate for sending troops to the Golan Heights."

On India and Pakistan, the secretary said their possession of nuclear weapons "is a matter of great concern." He acknowledged that "it's been very difficult" to convince those countries to give up their nuclear programmes.

Mr. Perry said the United States will continue to exert "coercive diplomacy" — the use of sanctions and the threat of force — in order to promote democracy in Haiti and prevent the flow of Haitian refugees to the United States, Mr. Perry said.

Question: What should we do about India and Pakistan, which now, along with the five major nuclear superpowers, possess nuclear weapons?

Answer: First of all, I don't want to affirm how many nuclear bombs or devices they may have. I certainly will concede that they have a nuclear programme, and it's a programme we're greatly concerned about. I just don't want to affirm the actual numbers of weapons they may have. It's a matter of great concern, and one of our principal objectives in dealing both with India and

Pakistan is to get both of them to back off these programmes and agree to a non-nuclear southern Asia. It's been very difficult. We've made very little headway in that today.

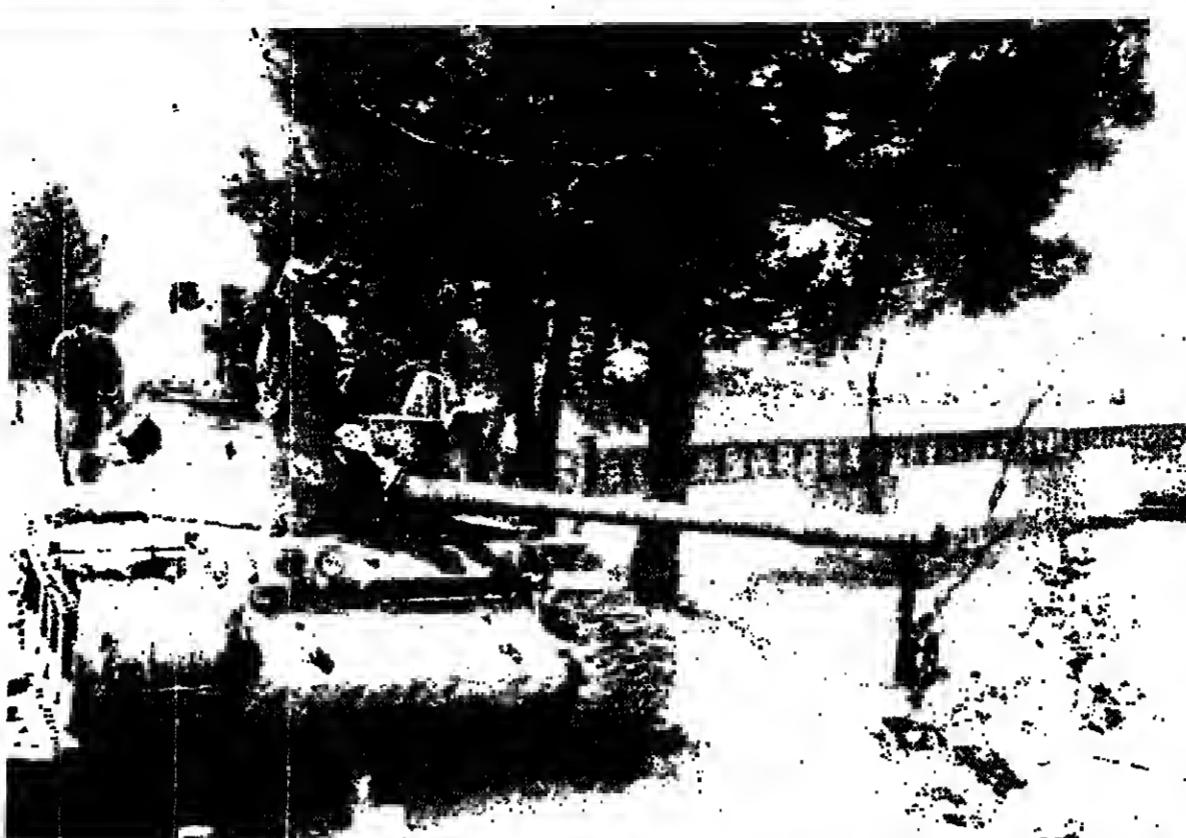
Q: How do you prevent other states — like Libya, Algeria, Syria, North Korea, Iran and Iraq — from acquiring a nuclear capability?

A: We're doing that through — first of all, you cannot be sure of doing it, but we're doing it through a series of controls that slow down the access to technology. In the case of Iraq, we actually used military force to curtail their programme. In the case of Korea, we have a vigorous coercive diplomacy to try to get that programme stopped.

Q: Will there be American troops in the Golan Heights?

A: That's a possibility. We have supported this peace agreement, and if the Syrians and the Israelis arrive at a peace agreement which requires third-country forces there, certainly the U.S. would be a candidate for that.

Jordan Times
Tel: 667171



Afghan Ismaelia religious faction fighters who captured the district centre of Doshi from government forces a month ago

man one of their tanks at the Doshi bridge (AFP photo)

Sudan says Carlos was planning new attacks

KHARTOUM (AP) — Sudan's capture of Carlos the Jackal shows its opposition to extremism, officials said Monday, but they denied the man was turned over to France to improve Sudan's international image.

Sudanese officials said Carlos, one of the world's most wanted men, came to Khartoum to plan assaults on foreign targets in Sudan and that agents had him under surveillance even before France requested his arrest.

"It is part of our moral conviction to fight against this kind of activity," a government spokesman told the Associated Press in London. "The government of Sudan in doing this is fulfilling its obligations to the international community in fighting terrorism and fighting against terrorists."

Spokesman Abu Baker Al Shingi rejected suggestions Sudan's Islamic fundamentalist government turned Carlos over to France simply to shed the country's image as a sponsor of international attacks.

However, Sudan's justice minister, Abdil Azziz Shad, urged the United States on Monday to consider taking Sudan off a list of countries that sponsor "terrorism," Egypt's Middle East News Agency reported.

By labelling Sudan a sponsor of "terrorism" last August, Washington cut off most aid and made it hard for the impoverished country to get loans from the World Bank and the International

Monetary Fund.

"Certainly the United States government is grateful to Sudan for their help in arranging this and the French government for their work on this," said White House Press Secretary Dee Myers.

Carlos' passport aroused the suspicion of Sudanese authorities when he arrived at Khartoum airport, Mr. Shingi said, and he and his associates "were not conducting any kind of activity to justify their presence in Sudan."

The others went in and out of the country but Carlos stayed, Mr. Shingi said.

He made some international calls which were monitored by the security group, and that confirmed the suspicion over his intentions," Mr. Shingi said.

While security agents were watching the group, France notified Sudan that Carlos had entered the country "with a false passport under a different name," Mr. Shingi said.

Sudan also received an official request from Interpol, the international police agency, to hand Carlos over to France for killing two French citizens and seriously injuring three others, he said.

Mr. Shingi said Carlos was part of a group planning attacks on foreign institutions so Sudan would be blamed for supporting international "terrorism." It was not clear why Carlos would seek to hurt Sudan.

Mr. Shingi told the AP in London that Carlos and others were arrested "in the past few days" in Khartoum.

He refused to say how many other people were arrested, when they arrived in Sudan, where they were from, or whether they were still in Sudan.

"We appreciate Sudan's actions," the spokesman

said.

Demonstrations, fighting mark PKK anniversary

ANKARA (AP) — Police have detained scores of demonstrators, reports said Monday, as part of tightened security for the 10th anniversary of the start of the Kurdish guerrilla war for autonomy.

On Aug. 15, 1984, guerrillas came down from the mountains and raided a township and a military post in southeastern Turkey. Ten years later, the fighting rages on, currently claiming the lives of about a dozen or more people every day.

Turkish officials say the military, which has been waging a stepped up offensive this year, is finally gaining the upper hand. The Turkish troops have killed 2,600 guerrillas while the rebels have killed 1,100 people, including civilians and members of the security forces, since the beginning of the year, officials

say. Rebels dispute the figures.

The fighting has claimed more than 13,000 lives since 1984.

Prime Minister Tansu Ciller has yet to make good on promises to grant some cultural rights to Kurds, such as permission for private broadcasting and education in the Kurdish language.

More than half of Turkey's 12 million Kurds live in the southeastern provinces.

The guerrillas belong to PKK, the illegal Kurdish Labour Party, whose ranks have swelled from 300 to more than 3,000 in 10 years. The rebels say the PKK's ranks are even greater.

The PKK grew out of a small group of radical leftist Kurdish university students in Ankara in the 70s. After fighters were trained in guerrilla tactics in camps in Lebanon, they infiltrated into Turkey.

On the warfront, 11 guerrillas and three soldiers were killed in a clash in Hakkari province, Anatolia said Monday.

After a decade of fighting, the Kurdish problem has put Turkey in conflict with its Western allies, especially following the imprisonment this year of eight Kurdish members of parliament.

The lawmakers reject allegations of links with the guerrillas.

The guerrillas belong to PKK, the illegal Kurdish Labour Party, whose ranks have swelled from 300 to more than 3,000 in 10 years. The rebels say the PKK's ranks are even greater.

The PKK has carried out numerous massacres of entire families of state-paid village guards. The PKK has also claimed responsibility for several bombings in western part of the country, many of them in tourist sites in Istanbul and elsewhere.

Turkey maintains it is waging a legitimate fight against terrorism.

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State of emergency declared in Sri Lanka after polls close

COLOMBO (AP) — Sri Lankans voted in a national election Tuesday, and the government immediately imposed a state of emergency when the polls closed to avoid violence.

In addition to the emergency, which allows police to arrest and detain anyone without charges, the government also declared a 24-hour curfew nationwide until Friday morning.

Tamil rebels who opposed the election blew up a navy ship in northern Sri Lanka during the vote, and 25 minor clashes were reported between rival party supporters.

But 24 people died in street fighting during the month-long campaign, and police expect more violence if the governing United National Party (UNP), which has been in power for 17 years, loses.

If the socialist Peoples' Alliance, a five-party opposition coalition, wins control of parliament, it has promised

to take steps that the United National Party could end up rejecting.

The Peoples' Alliance says it will choose its leader, Chandrika Kumaratunga, as prime minister; restructure the government to make her, not the president, the most powerful official, and hold unconditional talks with the rebels, who have been fighting for a Tamil homeland in Sri Lanka for 11 years.

As president, Dingiri Bandara Wijetunga, leader of the centrist United National Party, has far more power than any other government official, and he can pick whomsoever he wants as prime minister, even if his party loses control of parliament.

His party also has refused to negotiate with the Tamil rebels in a nation where many of the majority Sinhalese hate Tamils and deeply resent a guerrilla war that has killed 354,000 people.

Naval officials said guerrilla

divers probably placed mines under the 4,000-ton navy surveillance that sank in Kankesanthurai Harbour along with a nearby tug boat.

Two sailors were missing, and 33 others swam to safety after the explosion at dawn, a navy official said.

The harbour is controlled by the government but located in the rebel-held Jaffna peninsula, and few people were voting there.

The guerrillas opposed the election, and they told the nation's Tamil minority to stay away from the polls.

In Colombo, Prime Minister Ranil Wickremasinghe said he was not surprised by the attack because the government had intercepted guerrilla walkie-talkie messages about a major assault.

More than 40,000 policemen and thousands of gun-toting soldiers patrolled the streets Tuesday to prevent him from voting again.

No complaints about electoral fraud were immediately reported.

More than 75 per cent of

the estimated 11 million voters cast ballots in 10,000 polling stations, the government said. Forty-five international election observers from countries such as the United States, Britain, France and India monitored the polls.

Despite many clashes during the campaign, and the fact that past ballots have been marked by fraud and voter intimidation, many people lined up outside polling stations in schools and government offices at dawn Tuesday to cast their ballots.

"I came here early because I didn't want someone else to cast my vote. ... It happened last time," said Nairan Mohamad Ghani in Colombo. Like all voters, Mr. Ghani walked out with his left pinky covered in indelible violet ink to prevent him

from voting again.

No complaints about electoral fraud were immediately reported.



Sri Lankan Prime Minister Ranil Wickremasinghe casts his vote at a polling booth shortly after parliamentary elections began (AFP photo)

Suharto sets strict guidelines for openness

JAKARTA (R) — President Suharto announced strict guidelines Tuesday for political openness in Indonesia, warning that without such limits there would be anarchy.

"Without rules and without their observance, what will emerge is anarchy, not democracy," Mr. Suharto told the 500-member parliament on the eve of the 49th anniversary of independence.

"Any political aspirations are justifiable as long as they are presented through democratic and constitutional means," he said in prepared remarks.

Mr. Suharto, who came to power amid political chaos in the late 1960s and last year urged greater openness, was speaking after some of the worst student and labour unrest seen in Indonesia in years.

In June, the government closed two popular news magazines and one tabloid paper, apparently because of their reporting of sensitive political issues, including the recent purchase of 35 ageing former East German warships.

Late last year Muslim students staged the first demonstration outside the presidential palace in central Jakarta in protest against a state lottery that was later scrapped. In April, ethnically-charged labour rioting hit northern Sumatra.

Muchtar Prabahan, head of Indonesia's largest independent labour union, was detained by police Saturday, apparently in connection with April's unrest in which at least one ethnic Chinese businessman was killed.

"What we really need is a responsible openness," Mr. Suharto, a retired army general who has ruled the archipelago of about 14,000 islands said.

He equated political stability with economic development in the world's fourth most populous nation and Asia's only member of the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC).

"Our nation is so diverse. The history of our development is still young. This makes us vulnerable, especially against divisive elements," the 73-year-old Suharto said.

"Differences of opinion are one of the characteristics of democracy. We must respect every opinion — even though different — as part of fundamental human rights."

"But as a state under the law, even democracy has its rules," Mr. Suharto told parliament, comprising 400 elected members and 100 appointed by the armed forces.

He made passing reference to the armed forces, saying they "play quite a prominent role" in defence and security.

Diplomats say Mr. Suharto, elected for a sixth five-year term as president in March 1993, has had to play off concerned generals, Muslim groups, dissident groups and others in the ethnically diverse nation since 1991.

Mexican rebels closely watch presidential vote

MEXICO CITY (AFP) — For the first time in modern Mexican history, presidential elections will be held under the watchful eye of leftist rebels who have threatened to unleash nationwide protests if there is vote fraud.

The Institutional Revolutionary Party (PRI) goes to the polls Sunday with the prospect of gaining less than 50 per cent of the vote by the official tally for the first time since it took control of Mexico in 1929 after a long and bloody civil war.

But the PRI is still expected to win. The party's candidate Ernesto Zedillo is leading the polls ahead of the conservative National Action Party's Diego Fernandez and Cuauhtemoc Cardenas of the centre-left Party of the Democratic Revolution.

A healthy portion of voters also believe that Mr. Cardenas, the son of a legendary president and running third this year, actually won the 1988 election rather than President Carlos Salinas.

In addition to national and foreign observers, the Zapatista National Liberation Army, which took several southern Mexican towns on Jan. 1, has called from jungle stronghold for supporters to vote against the PRI.

The mostly Indian Zapatista guerrillas began their fight to dislodge the PRI and the Salinas government the same day the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) went into effect linking the United States, Mexico and Canada.

The impact of this uprising — and the assassination in March of PRI presidential candidate Luis Donaldo Colosio — forced the government to implement anti-fraud reforms that the opposition has been demanding for years.

These changes include opening the ruling council of the Federal Election Institute, which oversees balloting, to non-PRI personnel, the creation of a special prosecutor to investigate electoral fraud and widening opposition access to the mass media.

Several months ago, rebel

leader Subcomandante Marcos threatened a total

war against the PRI if the ruling party resorted to fraud to win, as the opposition alleged they have for years.

But with two weeks to go before the vote, the rebels opted for a less violent strategy: A campaign of civil disobedience that includes rallies, blackouts, boycotts of utility payments and a national

strike if there is vote fraud.

The new position grew out of the National Democratic Convention that some 6,000 rebels and supporters held in the remote Lacandon jungle not far from the Guatemalan border early this month.

Although the rebels had

been expected to harden their line during the gathering, the ski-masked Marcos asked those attending to reach out to voters and create peaceful routes to convert Mexico into a democracy.

But this does not mean an end to the growing violence in Mexico.

There have been several news reports — denied by the government — that rebel groups are arming in such diverse states as Oaxaca to the south and Puebla and Guerrero in the centre. Some are expecting attacks to begin on Aug. 21.

There has been reports of an impending uprising in Chiapas prior to the New Year's Day attack but these were also denied by the government.

Marcos has also indicated that the Zapatistas are in touch with other rebels.

"We have contacted these armed groups to give them an idea of what occurred here in this convention and to let them know that the revolutionary armies never attack those who they claim to represent," he told reporters.

But the PRI's biggest challenge will be to win back the sceptics among the electorate at large.

Cracks still harbour bitter

memories of the 1988 vote in which computers tallying ballots went down for seven days and then came back up to declare Mr. Salinas the winner — despite vociferous pro-

tests from the opposition.

Party of former dictator wins Guatemalan elections

GUATEMALA CITY (R) — The party of former Guatemalan dictator General Efraim Rios Montt, promising to stamp out crime and corruption, swept to victory in Sunday's congressional elections, the Supreme Electoral Tribunal said.

The Guatemalan Republicano Front (FRG) party led by Gen. Rios Montt won 32 seats in the reduced 80-member Congress, well ahead of its closest rival — the pro-business Party for National Advancement (PNA) with 24 seats, tribunal President Mario Guevara said Monday.

"For me it is tragic that someone like the general has been elected," political analysts Gabriel Aguilera told Reuters.

Although the new Congress will only be in office for little over a year, deputies may be required to vote on legislation that would legalise a pending peace accord to end Guatemala's 33-year civil war.

Elections were called 15 months early in a bid to purge the Congress of corrupt members in the wake of high-

profiled scandals.

Less than a quarter of the electorate voted in the elections hailed by President Ramiro De Leon as the "beginning of a new era" in Guatemalan politics.

The victory of the FRG,

whose fundamentalist Evangelical leader is accused by human rights groups of killing thousands of Guatemalans after he seized power in a coup in March 1982, is seen by some analysts as a return to Guatemala's dark past.

"They're souvenirs for

friends I couldn't afford to

buy gifts for," Tamayo said,

wiping the caked mud off an unopened can of Budweiser

that he had dug out of the ground. "Now I can give them something I found at Woodstock."

Despite the similarities be-

tween Woodstock '94 and the

original weekend of peace

U.S. Senate continues health reform debate

WASHINGTON (R) — The Senate faced all-night sessions on health reform Tuesday as a group of moderate Republicans and Democrats searched for a bipartisan agreement that could bridge the gap between the divided

lawmakers.

The Senate Tuesday entered its seventh day of debate on the complex health reform plan by Senate majority leader George Mitchell having yet to vote on a single amendment as Republicans insisted on airing their views in a steady stream of speeches.

In an effort to prod Republicans, Sen. Mitchell threatened to keep the Senate in session around the clock until votes are allowed. If Republicans yield, the First Amendment the Senate would vote on would require private health insurers to cover preventive care for pregnant women and babies.

Meanwhile, members of the bipartisan group, who call themselves the "mainstream," worked to complete a compromise initiative they hoped to outline to Sen. Mitchell possibly as early as

Tuesday.

They have not spelled out their plan but have said they want to reshape the pending Mitchell bill to include medical malpractice and less government spending while relying less on bureaucracy and more on market forces to contain costs.

"We are light years away from Senator Mitchell," said Senator John Danforth, a Missouri Republican. He said the mainstream's ideas would "not frighten" people.

Much of the debate has been dominated by partisan bickering.

The Democrats sought to paint the Republican plan as a half-hearted effort that does nothing for 39 million uninsured Americans. Republicans encounter that the Democratic plan will create huge new government bureaucracies and cost taxpayers billions of dollars.

The Senate is divided over health care reform," said Senator John Rockefeller, a West Virginia Democrat who is a strong ally of President Bill Clinton and his effort to pass health reform that covers all Americans.

The bill was defeated on a procedural motion in a vote that capped months of intense lobbying by the nation's top gun lobby, the National Rifle Association (NRA).

Mr. Clinton received backing for his bid to pass the bill from the president of a police

association, Dewey Stokes, who said at a White House ceremony that the weapons ban was a "non-negotiable item" in the crime-fighting package.

His remarks were echoed by White House spokeswoman Dee Dee Myers who said the administration was holding talks with Congress to "see if there are changes we can make that don't compromise the president's bottom line."

"We have to face the fact that we have the highest murder rate in the world," Mr. Clinton said. "There should be no more excuses."

The crime package includes a ban on 19 types of assault weapons, funding to the number of policemen patrolling streets by 100,000 and tougher sentences for third-time violent offenders.

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The bill was stopped Thursday by a margin of 225 to 210 on a procedural motion that kept it from coming to the House floor.

Mr. Clinton stressed that partisanship should not be a factor in voting on the crime bill. "There should be no more discussion as to whether it is a Democratic bill, a Republican bill or a Clinton bill," he said.

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World News



Rwandan Hutu refugees cross a bridge from the Rwandan town of Cyangugu to the Zairean border town of Bukavu (AFP photo)

China foils North Korean plot to kill Kim Young-Sam — report

HONG KONG (AFP) — China foiled an alleged plot by North Korea to assassinate South Korean President Kim Young-Sam during his visit to China last year, a Hong Kong-based monthly magazine said Tuesday.

China's intelligence services uncovered Pyongyang's plot to murder Mr. Kim in reprisal for Beijing's decision to establish diplomatic relations with Seoul in 1991, said Zhang Zirong, a Beijing University international relations lecturer, in an article in the latest issue of the China-watching magazine *Contemporary*.

His article said the plot was uncovered in May 1993.

Mr. Kim was in Beijing in March last year and again in March this year, but is not known to have visited China in May last year.

Mr. Zhang, quoting reliable sources, said Pyongyang had sent three women spies to China to carry out the assassination, but they were thwarted by the Beijing State Security Bureau.

He said China's action had prevented another "Rangoon incident," a reference to the bomb blast in the Burmese capital in October 1983 which killed 18 high-ranking visiting South Korean officials.

Mr. Zhang is believed to be the first Chinese expert to refer publicly to a North Korean attempt on Mr. Kim's life, although there have been unconfirmed rumours of such a plot.

Meanwhile the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) said Tuesday it hoped to restart all its inspections in North Korea following the agreement reached between the United States and North Korea in Geneva Saturday.

In a statement published here the IAEA said it welcomed the accord signed by the two powers Friday on North Korea's suspected nuclear programme.

In the accord, North Korea agreed to remain a member of the international Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty and said it would allow the implementation of the safeguards within the framework of the agreement.

Over 2,000 detained in Seoul

South Korea police rounded up some 2,400 people during and after last week's North Korean-inspired rallies across the country which also left

100 dead.

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long flight from Seoul last Wednesday, but all 160 people on board managed to escape the burning plane before it exploded into a huge fireball.

The ministry report said analysis of the cockpit voice recorder and flight data recorder showed the Canadian pilot Barry Woods and South

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The Iraqi dimension

THERE IS no denying that the Gulf conflict had contributed a great deal to triggering the peace process in the region. Now after four years of sanctions imposed on Iraq which has complied fully with all U.N. resolutions, it is time to lift the sanctions and involve that country in the peace process.

The pressure for lifting the economic embargo on Iraq has recently been growing worldwide but especially among U.N. Security Council members. France, China, and Russia are in favour of lifting the sanctions soon; the U.S. and Britain are inclined to maintain the embargo for at least until mid-1995. The sanctions have had their toll on the Iraqi people who, for all intents and purposes, are not responsible for either the causes or the result of the Kuwait invasion. The Iraqi regime had prior to the 1990 crisis and recently been sending signals that it was not opposed to a peaceful settlement between the Arabs and Israel. The time is therefore ripe for a tradeoff that would involve lifting the sanctions in exchange for Iraq's inclusion in the peace process.

An arrangement involving such a tradeoff is of course in the best interest of Jordan. It would strengthen Jordan's hand in its negotiations with Israel and at the same time open a huge market for Jordanian businesses, a market that was lost as a result of the Gulf conflict. Involving Iraq in the multilateral track of the peace process, with its huge oil and water resources would add tremendous assets to the vision of an integrated Middle East.

Jordan, while hopeful that Iraq would join the multilaterals and resume its role among the states of the region, cannot contribute to the effort unless it is asked to do so. The U.S. still seems unconvinced that Iraq should be reintegrated in the Middle East and would continue to pursue the doctrine of dual containment — of Iraq and Iran — authored by President Bill Clinton's top Middle East aide Martin Indyk. Israel meanwhile, seems to be involved in secret negotiations with the Iraqis, even though it denies such talks exist.

As Prime Minister Abdul Salam Majali said in a recent interview, a lasting and comprehensive peace in the Middle East requires the involvement of all the region's players, including Iraq. The sooner that is achieved the better for the peace prospects.

ARABIC PRESS COMMENTARIES

AL RA'I daily Tuesday criticised delays in delineating the Jordanian-Israeli borders. In its editorial, the paper quoted Jordanian negotiators to the talks with Israel as saying that positive results were achieved in procedural bilateral issues, but at the same time there was a slowdown in negotiating issues related to delineating the borders. The paper said the Article 5 of the common Jordanian-Israeli agenda refers to the British mandate borders and that the two sides agreed to that. The paper asked why should there be procrastination since the terms of reference of defining the border had been agreed upon. Delineation of the border after the agreement should be a technical, procedural issue and there can be no justification for procrastinating this or interpreting it as a goodwill gesture, the paper added. It said the Jordanian people are anxiously waiting for the negotiations to achieve tangible results, especially in regaining sovereignty over Jordanian occupied lands and are anticipating that the Jordanian flag will soon be raised over these lands. The Jordanian people are also expecting that their government's speed in proving its credibility and goodwill in the peace process should be met by similar speed on the Israeli side, said the paper. Al Ra'i said that Israeli negotiators have already gathered enough evidence of Jordan's good intentions and can offer the evidence to the Israeli public opinion.

AL DUSTOUR Arabic daily dealt in its editorial with His Majesty King Hussein's address Monday to officers from the Fifth Royal Armoured Division. The paper said the King remembered in his address the martyrs of the Arab Army, most prominent among them to Great Arab Revolt leader Al Hussein Ben Ali and "Al Aqsa martyr" Abdallah Ben Al Hussein, and paid tribute to the sacrifices of the Arab Army. It said the Arab Army is the heir to the Great Arab Revolt's army and added that Jordan acts as a heart to the great Arab Nation. The people and the army in Jordan are one family which depicts the community of Al Muhajireen and Al Ansar, said the paper in reference to those who immigrated with Prophet Mohammad from Mecca to Medina and those who supported them in Medina. The Jordanian society, it said, also reflects the best meanings of giving and sacrifices towards every Arab cause, namely the Palestinian question. Thus, it said, it was natural that a city as Jerusalem occupies such a status in King Hussein's heart and mind and it is not strange that the King does all he can to bring the city back to its people and to make it a symbol of peace and coexistence.

Iraq after sanctions: reevaluating foreign policy

By Laura Drake

DESPITE WASHINGTON's best attempts, all indications are that President Saddam Hussein will remain in power for the foreseeable future. This fact, combined with Iraq's near-total compliance with the arms-control provision of U.N. Security Council Resolution 687, the original ceasefire document, has convinced many states that the time to lift sanctions is fast approaching. It has reached the point where Washington's view are no longer shared by a majority of the permanent members in the U.N. Security Council.

The failure of the U.S. strategy has become obvious to almost everyone except President Bill Clinton, and most of the international community is ready to move on.

France, Russia, China, Turkey and even Syria fear the consequences of Baghdad's prolonged absence from the international system. European corporations, particularly from Germany, France and Italy, are anxious to reopen the Iraqi domestic market, their representatives arriving in Baghdad by the hussle to negotiate billions of dollars worth of contracts for Iraq's coming reconstruction effort. Many deals are nearing completion and will take effect as soon as the embargo is lifted.

In light of this heightened activity, questions are beginning to emerge in some quarters about the new, post-war Iraq which has been steadily developing over the past several years but which few people have ever seen. Many are asking: what will Iraq be like after sanctions? How has Iraq changed during its four years of solitude? What will its national and regional priorities be? How will it look upon the rest of the world?

Indeed, Iraq political thinking is presently undergoing a fundamental transformation, in some of the categories outlined below.

Decline of Ba'thist ideology

The pan-Arabist ideology of the Ba'th Party no longer exists in any real sense. It has been stamped out by a combination of three factors: the participation of so many Arab governments in the war against Iraq; the indifference of most regional actors to the suffering of the Iraqi people under the U.N. embargo; Iraq's prolonged physical separation from the Arab World.

In the 1970s Iraq's pan-Arab regional stance enabled it to acquire the prestige of a regional leader.

Today, Iraqis bitterly remember having sent troops to block Israel's advance on Damascus at the end of the 1973 war. They recall that it was their country which carried Egypt out of a decade of isolation after it signed the Camp David accords. And it was Iraq which protected the entire Arab World in the 1980s, they say, by facing down the threat of Iranian expansion under Khomeini. "It was these same governments that responded by stabbing us in the back," commented a former Iraqi soldier. Iraqis reminisce about the sense of pride they once had in trying to put together and lead a pan-Arab system. At the same time, they become angry with themselves at what they consider their past naivete. Lamented one former Ba'thist: "from now on, we will have to listen to our head and not our emotions."

This international outlook will probably not last long after the lifting of sanctions. Although Iraq will not be a leading state in the Middle East for years to come, it will still have to live there. Baghdad, cannot escape its strategic importance; once the embargo is lifted, it will have to either adopt a concrete regional policy or become the prey of neighbouring states with well developed regional objectives already in place.

According to Isam Mahbub, director of the Iraqi foreign ministry's first political directorate (America and Western Europe): "Just as the West has been re-evaluating its strategic posture since the end of the cold war, Iraq is undergoing a parallel adjustment at the regional level, in light of the transformations which have accompanied the Gulf war." Iraq's new orientation will almost certainly be determined by natural factors such as important, perceived national interest, not by Ba'thist priorities, now defunct, which automatically tied Iraq to the Arab

states.

Iraq will probably, in the end, have to compromise between preference and pragmatism. If the current peace negotiations between Israel and its neighbours succeed and a "new Middle East order" is established in the Levant, the Iraqis are likely to accept it as a regional fait accompli. "Once the Palestinian issue is solved, everything will fall into place," said an Iraqi government analyst, who subsequently clarified this as meaning an "independent Palestinian state". This condition was confirmed by several other Iraqi officials. Although the Iraqis may have to come to terms with the new reality in the Middle East out of pragmatism, it is likely they will want to keep a respectable distance from it at the same time: "Iraq is not a neighbouring country."

Some analysts see Iran as Iraq's primary preoccupation in the future, although not one of its own choosing. According to one Iraqi government official: "Iranian fundamentalism is gaining momentum throughout the area because of our absence from the regional system. Iraq is still the region's only natural buffer to an explosion of Iranian power." On the other hand, Baghdad periodically engages in reconciliation talks with Tehran, in an attempt to present a common front against Washington's "dual containment" policy.

M. KAHIL



Haiti leaders complacent in face of military threat

By Jane Arraf
Reuters

PONT-AU-PRINCE — Hot breezes foreshadowing the rainy season blow through the colonial-style corridors of Haiti's military command but Haitian leaders defying the threat of U.S. invasion do not seem to be working up a sweat.

"Here we are — this small, poor Caribbean country and we've managed to stand up to the mighty United States," boasted one military official in the colonnaded headquarters.

In Haiti, the military and paramilitary enforcers rule unchallenged. Visitors walk in and out of the headquarters, unsearched and virtually unquestioned.

Westerners and Haitians attribute the bravado to the success of Lieutenant General Raoul Cedras in holding off Washington since 1991, when military leaders deposed elected President Jean-Bertrand Aristide in a bloody coup.

Diplomats and Haitian analysts say Gen. Cedras shows no sign of heeding U.S. and U.N. calls for him to step down, despite the

U.N.'s green light last month for American military action.

The turning point was the retreat last year of the tank landing ship, the USS Harlan County, in a stand-off with the Haitian military, many people say. The Pentagon feared the U.S. marines aboard who were sent to help restore democracy would suffer casualties.

"Cedras must wake up every morning amazed that he's still here," said one Western diplomat.

Officials, however, maintain that the capital's narrow streets and concrete alleys would render U.S. weapons useless in a campaign to remove the military's side.

"Their equipment consists of what? Helicopters, tanks, armoured vehicles? In a very narrow street you cannot use them," said Carl Denis, political adviser to President Emile Joussaint. Therefore, we do not believe the marines would have an advantage in man-to-man, hand-to-hand combat."

Mr. Denis said what he called 40,000 volunteers to the civilian militia would be armed with American-made weapons after they had been trained to defend

Haitian sovereignty.

"We used to have 600,000 militiamen of which 100,000 were armed with semi-automatic and automatic weapons so I do believe that a sizeable force can be assembled," he told Reuters this week.

The soldiers are "poorly trained, poorly equipped and they've never had to fight. If the marines landed, they would scatter like cockroaches," said one Western diplomat.

Officials, however, maintain that the capital's narrow streets and concrete alleys would render U.S. weapons useless in a campaign to remove the military's side.

The government has also used emergency measures to help stifle opposition and hunt down Mr. Aristide supporters. Haitian and Western analysts said. Two weeks ago a state of siege was declared.

The pressure also extends to local radio stations and even musical groups.

At a night club Saturday, a pro-Aristide song played by Haiti's most famous "voodoo rock" group came to an abrupt halt when a man burst onto the stage and ordered them to stop playing the "subversive music," patrons said.

they will be held in special esteem for years to come." Right now, it appears, the French are ahead of the game.

New priorities

Iraqis all believe in the fundamental axiom that Kuwait is an integral part of Iraq, severed by the British to landlock the country by cutting off its access to the Gulf. They also agree, however, that Iraq should not have invaded Kuwait. None of them believe that the Iraqi people deserve to be punished into eternity for an event that Iraqis themselves admit was a mistake. Neither does most of the international community, which is reportedly willing to settle for an Iraqi statement unconditionally recognising Kuwait's integrity as sufficient for lifting sanctions at this stage.

"We have no military ambitions anywhere," said an Iraqi official. "Our first priority is to get sanctions lifted, our second priority is to rebuild our infrastructure and our third is to bring the standard of living of our population back to acceptable levels. Dr. Naima of Baghdad University echoed this: "Iraq will be spending the next 30 years reconstructing its economy and paying off foreign debts and war reparations."

In the meantime, Iraq hopes to rebuild good relations with the rest of the world once sanctions are lifted. Baghdad will "reach the hand of friendship to every state on an equal basis," declared an Iraqi official. He explained that Iraq is not against good relations with Western countries, even the U.S., provided they are founded on "mutual interest" and "mutual respect". Western companies wishing to do business in Iraq will be treated on the basis of when they approach Baghdad, the sooner the better.

According to Naji Al Hadhod, the deputy minister of information in Washington, the Iraqis' objectives in Kuwait were "misunderstood" in Washington. "Whatever we did, we did not do it to injure the Americans or to cut off their supply of oil. We thought we were acting on the basis of our own national interests, but they took it personally. We could not have anticipated the severity of their reaction."

Laura Drake is director of research at the Council for the National Interest, a Middle East policy organization in Washington. The article is reprinted from the Middle East International.

LETTERS

Pursuing paradise

To the Editor:

FACED WITH high unemployment, low salaries and poverty, many young Arabs choose to emigrate. Yes we love our country but economic circumstances forced us to think about leaving. Without money life is not worth living, and since the money is somewhere else, there is no point in staying.

Ideally, we want a country with a strong economy, willing to take new graduates, and preferably does not discriminate against Arabs. Soon, however, most will realize that such a country does not exist. In fact all first world countries have strong policies to keep poor Arabs out. Only the rich, elite Arabs are allowed to enter paradise. Confronted with this situation, the poor pioneers use a more daring approach; they think of Nietzsche (although he has nothing to do with this) and say: "To get a visa everything is permissible."

But this approach is not for everyone. It's for people who love action. Important requirements: A fake V.I.M.G. suit, an effective dramatic story that contains lies that could be believed, self-confidence, strong acting skills, and good luck. In addition, one needs to know of a frustrated consular officer who wanted to be a political analyst but ended up stamping visas. If all these factors came together and the visa person was in a good mood, these dreamers might have a chance to be residents of heaven.

Of course, life after the visa is not easy. One should expect to live on limited vocabulary for a while. That means no social life till the new language is mastered. And no job until one is prepared to wear a mask that is acceptable to the new culture. Explicitly, one must find a way to get rid of his or her "Arabness" to be recognized as a person in the new society.

As time passes, emigrants get used to being aliens in the new country, some shall make lots of money, while others remain poor, but all are condemned forever to be strangers. Well, maybe that is an exaggeration. One thing is sure, however: They have to decide what to do about their old culture which still lives in their hearts. To kill it or not to kill it becomes the new question.

In the end, one wonders whether emigration is worth all that trouble? But there are no easy answers.

Ayman Zanoun,
Amman.

The time is now

To the Editor:

I WOULD like to add my voice to that of Salim Ayoub in his letter to the editor, "Preparing for a normal life" (Jordan Times August 15). I am having a lot of trouble advocating such concept of normality to my closest friends who say also it is too early and too quick.

Well, the time is now. His Majesty King Hussein has put Jordan in a path that we all know is the best for us. Let us look forward to enhance the living standards of our people. I salute Mr. Ayoub, for he is ready, as I am, for a new life. Can we hear from others who are ready?

Metri Twa,
Amman.

Features

Hamas warns of Somalia in Gaza

By Marianne M. Shahin
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

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Abequas appeal to King for intervention

By Rama Hussein
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — The family of Mohammad Abequa, who is suspected of killing his wife Nihal in the U.S. then fleeing to Jordan with the two children, said Tuesday they feared that the children might be handed to their mother's relatives and appealed to His Majesty King Hussein not to yield to what they said was pressure from the American government.

During a press conference, Mohammad Abequa's mother, Samiha, and her two appointed lawyers, Masoud Khaleefi and Saleh Mograbi said they had sent a letter to King Hussein urging him to interfere and decide on the fate of the children.

"I know that Your Majesty has the final word in this issue, and I hope you can do something to settle the conflict," said Mrs. Abequa.

Adnan Abequa, the suspect's brother, said that officials had promised the family that the children will not be handed over to the Dokur or the United States without a fair ruling from an Islamic Sharia court.

He told the Jordan Times that no date has been set for a court hearing.

"Since His Majesty has interfered in the issue, we will respect any decision he finds suitable," Mr. Abequa said.

According to the lawyers, who will also defend Mohammad Abequa in the murder case, the custody of the children will be granted to their client Mrs. Abequa, because the two children are Jordanians and the woman resides in Jordan.

They said that Article 154 of the Jordanian Personal Status Law no. 60 of 1976, stipulates that the custody of the children goes to the mother and if she is not alive, it goes for her mother "if she is capable of raising the children inside Jordan," or to the mother of the father.

"In our case, the legal custodian is . . . our client because she is capable of raising the children in Jordan," Mr. Khaleefi said.

Two Jordanian attorneys appointed by the Dokur family said in a recent press conference that Ms. Gusal, their client, will be granted custody of the children according to the personal law applied by the Sharia court.

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Hrawi rejects U.S. call to restrain resistance

BEIRUT (Agencies) — Lebanese President Elias Hrawi said on Tuesday that Beirut had turned down a U.S. proposal to curb guerrillas fighting Israel as a precondition for an Israeli withdrawal from South Lebanon.

Mr. Hrawi, in a speech to representatives of Arab news agencies, said:

"U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher suggested stopping the resistance so that Israel would withdraw but Lebanon's answer was let Israel withdraw and we will deploy the army (in South Lebanon) and the resistance would stop."

Mr. Hrawi did not make clear how Lebanon received the U.S. proposal but Mr. Christopher visited Syria, Lebanon's main power broker, earlier this month.

Lebanon argues it cannot stop guerrillas of Hezbollah and other groups fighting Israeli forces in South Lebanon before the Jewish state withdraws from the buffer zone it occupies there or gives a timetable for such a withdrawal.

Mr. Hrawi also said that Lebanon — which closely coordinates its peace talks moves with Syria — would not sign a separate peace

treaty with Israel.

Syria's Al Baath daily, mouthpiece of the ruling Baath Party, Tuesday urged the international community to curb Israeli attacks in South Lebanon.

"It's regrettable that the U.N. Security Council stands idly before its duties and responsibilities, a matter which makes Israel pay no attention to humanitarian principles and norms," the newspaper said in an editorial.

The commentary was published as Israeli forces and guerrillas of Hezbollah clashed in South Lebanon.

At least three militiamen of the Israeli-armed South Lebanon Army were killed in fighting Tuesday.

On Monday, Israeli warplanes rocketed hideouts used by Hezbollah.

The guerrillas first attacked the SLA position at Tomat Nihal in the Israeli-held zone's eastern sector at 6:30 a.m. (0300 GMT), sources reported.

Three hours later, the SLA post at Zommaraya on the zone's northern edge was hit with machine gun fire and rocket-propelled grenades.

The SLA casualties were inflicted then, the sources said. But the SLA's Voice of

the South Radio station gave a different account.

It said the casualties were

caused when guerrillas detonated a remote-controlled roadside bomb in the zone as the militia's Zommaraya commander, Adel Wahhab, drove past at 9:30 a.m.

The radio said the victims

were all bodyguards escorting

Wahhab.

Two other SLA command

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Al Baath indicated that

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Economy

JORDAN TIMES, WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 17, 1994

Oil prices hit 6-year low in first half of '94

ABU DHABI (AFP) — Average crude oil prices in the first half of 1994 have dived to their lowest level in six years despite a recent improvement sparked mainly by an oil strike in Nigeria, official reports said Tuesday.

The price of OPEC's basket of seven crudes averaged \$14.58 in the first six months of 1994 compared with \$17.6 in the first half of 1993, according to reports by OPEC and the Organisation of Arab Petroleum Exporting Countries (OAPEC).

In the first six months of 1992 the price averaged

\$17.75, in 1991 \$18.22 and in 1990 \$16.97 for the same period.

But in the whole of 1990, prices hit an eight-year high of \$22.25 because of the Gulf War.

Oil prices were as weak as \$13.8 in 1988 and hit a 10-year low of \$13.7 in 1986 due to a production war within the then 13-nation Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC).

They had shot to a record \$34.3 in 1981, when Gulf crude supplies and naval routes were threatened by the Iran-Iraq war.

The Gulf controls more than 60 per cent of the world's crude reserves and around one fifth of the world's oil exports pass through the strategic Strait of Hormuz, which Iran threatened to close during the 1980-1988 war.

Oil prices dipped to \$13.75 in March, one of their lowest levels in five years.

But they have recovered to above \$17 because of the oil strike in Nigeria and OPEC's general compliance with its official output ceiling of 24.52 million barrels per day (b/d).

OPEC oil ministers are due

to meet in November to discuss whether to increase the ceiling, which has remained unchanged since September 1993.

Experts said they expected an increase for the first quarter of 1994, when demand is projected to exceed 26 million b/d.

Quota violations by some of the cartel members coupled with expectations about the return of embargo-hit Iraq to the market pushed crude prices to as low as \$16.33 in 1993 compared with \$18.45 in 1992.

"Oil prices should remain

above \$18 this year in order to maintain their 1993 level," a Gulf oil expert said. "But I do not think they will reach their 1992 level as they are unlikely to increase to \$21."

According to OPEC news agency OPECNA, prices stood at \$17.60 at the end of last week and averaged \$15.15 this year.

They averaged \$13.56 in the first quarter and \$15.60 in the second quarter.

Although prices are not likely to exceed their 1993 level, the recent improvement could help Gulf states cut the projected deficit in their budgets.

Predicting weak prices, Saudi Arabia and its partners in the six-nation Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) have based their 1994 budgets on a minimum price level of between \$13 and \$16.

U.S., Japan reach accord on patent rights

TOKYO (R) — Japan and the United States have reached an accord on intellectual property rights, their first sectoral agreement in 13-month-old trade talks, a Japanese foreign ministry official said Tuesday.

The two nations will sign a pact detailing ways to strengthen protection of patents in Washington, the official said in a telephone interview.

"The two nations have reached a substantial agreement on what we should do over the issue... we'll exchange statements confirming the measures to be taken by each side, and sign at 5 a.m. Tokyo time Wednesday (2000 GMT on Tuesday)," he said.

The pact calls for Japan to speed up the process of granting patents by improving filing procedures. Japan would also allow objections to be filed after a patent has been tentatively granted.

The United States would take action to take public the contents of patents granted in order to prevent infringement caused by a lack of information, the official said.

Intellectual property is one of the least contentious issues in Japan-U.S. talks aimed at promoting freer bilateral trade in goods and services. The talks began in July 1993.

U.S. firms have complained that they are losing money from piracy of books, software, films and recordings in many countries, including Japan, China and Russia.

Intellectual property rights is not among the "priority" sectors in the talks. Those sectors are insurance, cars and car parts, and government procurement of medical and telecommunications equipment.

Japan's NHK public television quoted unnamed Japanese official sources as saying it remained uncertain whether the agreement on intellectual property would give impetus to negotiations in other areas.

Arabs earn \$5b less from oil exports

ABU DHABI (AFP) — Arab oil earnings dropped by more than \$5 billion in 1993 due to weak crude prices although Kuwait's oil output was sharply higher, an official report said Monday.

The earnings stood at around \$92 billion compared with \$97.7 billion in 1992, said the report by the Organisation of Arab Petroleum Exporting Countries (OAPEC).

The report, carried by the official Emirates news agency WAM, gave no breakdown but experts said nearly half the revenues were earned by Saudi Arabia, which produced an average 8.05 million barrels per day (b/d) in 1993.

Total Arab crude output stood at nearly 17.5 million b/d, more than a quarter of the world's oil supplies.

The Kuwaiti-based OAPEC said most Arab countries lost revenues due to the fall in oil prices in 1993 to around \$16.33 from \$18.44 in 1992.

Kuwait's earnings, however, jumped by around 53 per cent because of a surge in crude production to an average 1.88 million b/d in 1993 compared with 918,000 b/d in 1992.

The rise followed gradual rehabilitation of the Emirate's oil sector which was crippled by the Iraqi invasion forces before they were ejected in February 1991.

Kuwait now produces two million b/d under an OAPEC accord and it has indicated it would seek a higher quota as it presses ahead with plans to boost output capacity, including in the Neutral Zone it shares with Saudi Arabia.

Arab oil earnings hit an eight-year high of \$102.3 billion in 1990, when crude prices shot above \$40 due to a halt in Iraq and Kuwait oil supplies during the war. But the figure remained far lower than the record \$212 billion earned by Arabs in 1981.

OAPEC said crude and gas supplies by its 10 members increased to 19.4 million b/d in 1993 from 17.8 million b/d in 1992 mainly because of the rise in Kuwait's output. Consumption of oil products also grew to 2.7 million b/d from 2.4 million b/d.

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Amra Hotel Shops, 6th Circle, Amman
Amman since 1988
Rio de Janeiro since 1975



President of Indonesian Republic SUHARTO

THE REPUBLIC OF INDONESIA'S CELEBRATIONS OF INDEPENDENCE DAY

HANI AL ASHI in the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan offers heart-felt congratulations to His Excellency the Ambassador of Indonesia, the embassy staff and all the Indonesian people, wishing them continued progress and prosperity on the occasion of Indonesia's Independence Day which falls on Aug. 17.

Congratulations to the Indonesian people.

JORDAN DECORATIVE MATERIALS CO. LTD.



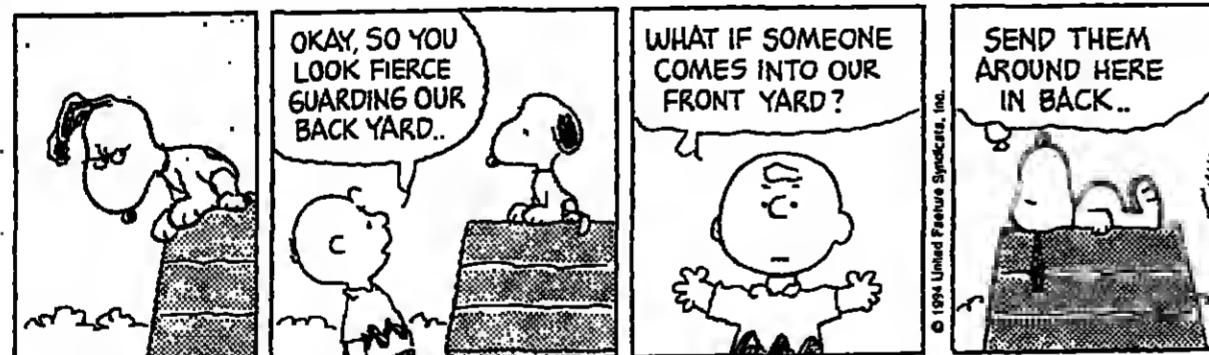
President of Indonesian Republic SUHARTO

WISH

THE PEOPLE OF INDONESIA
A HAPPY INDEPENDENCE DAY
AFFIRMING JORDANIAN FRIENDSHIP
AND HOPES OF CONTINUED
PROGRESS AND PROSPERITY

JORDAN FERTILIZER INDUSTRY COORDINATION COMMITTEE
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Arab Potash Company 
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AND HOPES OF CONTINUED
PROGRESS AND PROSPERITY

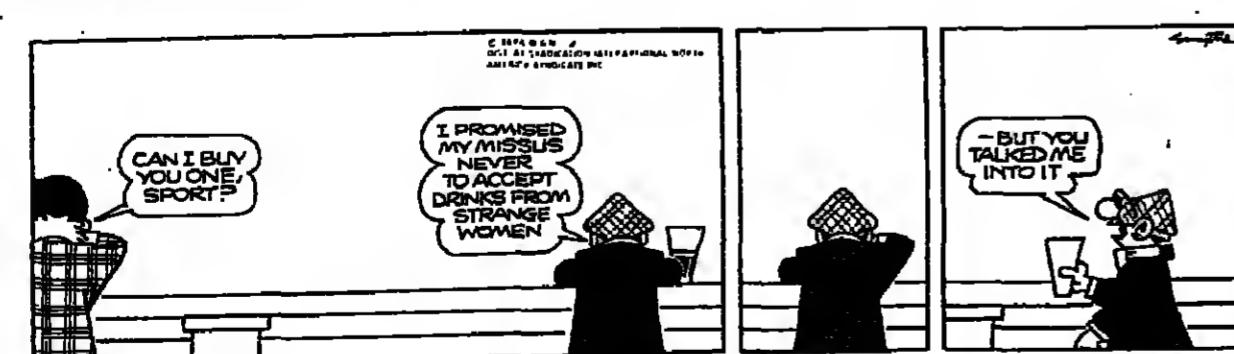
Peanuts



WHAT IF SOMEONE COMES INTO OUR FRONT YARD?

SEND THEM AROUND HERE IN BACK...

Andy Capp



I PROMISED MY MOTHER NEVER TO ACCEPT DRINKS FROM STRANGE WOMEN

BUT YOU TALKED ME INTO IT

Mutt'n'Jeff



IF IT'S GONNA STRIKE ME IT'S GONNA HAVE TO FIND ME!



THE BETTER HALF



Next time we have an argument, I've got 1000 guys on the Internet waiting to help me win!

JUMBLE

THAT SCRABBLE WORD GAME by Herl Arnold and Mike Arthron

ACROSS

1 Math sub.

5 Parseghan

8 Lovable

13 Crows' Zeus

14 Gays' game

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48 On the deck

51 Meet at the door

53 Bays

57 Washout

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59 Canteen

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82 Couple of times

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84 Keen on

85 Lush setting?

86 — wave,

87 Ford's dog

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91 Keen on

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93 Lush setting?

94 — wave,

95 Piles

Business & Finance

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OHABI (AFP) — Earnings dropped more than \$5 billion, though Kuwait's oil output was sharply higher, a report said. Most earnings stood at \$92 billion compared with \$97.7 billion in 1993, the report by the Exporting Council, said.

report, carried by

Emirates news

WAM, gave no

but experts said

half the revenue

revenue by Saudi

Arab produced

8,095 million

barrel (b/d) in 1993

Arab crude output

nearly 17.5 million

more than a quarter

of oil supplies.

Kuwait-based

said most Arab

lost revenues

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around \$16.33 per

barrel in 1992.

Arab's earnings

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Italian Grand Prix reinstated

PARIS (R) — The Italian Grand Prix was reinstated on Monday following high-level contacts between Formula One's ruling body and the Italian government.

Three days after cancelling the race because of doubts over whether the Italian authorities would carry out safety work to the track, the International Motoring Federation (FIA) accepted a temporary solution which changes the line of a dangerous curve.

The Monza race, which is the highlight of the Formula One season for Italian race fans and caused an uproar when cancelled, will go ahead as scheduled on September 11.

The FIA said the famous sweeping Lesmo curve would be altered to make it more acute and slow down the speeds.

"The changes will make the corner tighter and slow speeds down considerably," said FIA spokesman Martin Whittaker. "Cars would take the corner at about 260kph before, but will be reduced to about 100kph."

The race had been in doubt since Italian authorities refused to cut down about 100 ancient trees in a royal park to widen the run-off area needed to meet new safety specifications.

But following a meeting on Saturday in Cannes between

FIA President Max Mosley, leading driver Gerhard Berger, Italian Cabinet Under-Secretary Gianni Letta, President of the Lombardy Region Paolo Arrigoni and the Italian Automobile Club, a temporary solution for this year's race was hammered out.

Letta sent a message to Mosley expressing "satisfaction on behalf of Prime Minister Silvio Berlusconi and millions of Italian sports fans" for his decision to remove the calendar.

Letta suggested building chicane to reduce speed, but that was unacceptable to FIA, and with the dispute bringing the resignation of the mayor of Monza and reflecting badly on Mr. Berlusconi, the prime minister took the unusual step of dispatching his cabinet under-secretary to France.

Work is expected to start on modifying the circuit as early as Tuesday.

Safety has become a priority in Formula One after Ayrton Senna of Brazil and Austrian Roland Ratzenberger died earlier this year at the San Marino Grand Prix at the Italian circuit of Imola.

FIA and the drivers demanded changes to the Lesmo curves but Lucia Gremmo, the superintendent of cultural heritage for the Milan area, had opposed any solution to make the Monza track safer which involved felling centuries-old trees.

Top referee admits to extra pressure

LONDON (AFP) — Top referee Philip Don admitted here on Monday that officials will be under the spotlight as never before this season.

Don, the only English referee at this summer's World Cup, was in charge of Saturday's Charity Shield at Wembley, where Manchester United beat Blackburn 2-0 in a game of seven bookings.

But schoolteacher Don insisted he would have booked all seven players — four from Blackburn and three from United — last season as well.

After the game Blackburn boss Kenny Dalglish was cri-

tical of the refereeing and warned about taking the element of commonsense away from referees.

But Don said: "Not every bad tackle is a cautionable offence. The referee has to do his commonsense. It is very clear. You cannot take that away while it is still in the laws that decisions are down to the referee's opinion."

"If you took that out, then we would become like robots. They talk about players being under pressure — but yesterday I felt under real pressure thanks to these

directives from FIFA.

"All four of us — even the referee official — were under the microscope out there. It was being televised live, would be seen in many countries and it was on the radio. We were very aware of our responsibilities."

But Don pointed out: "I could have sent three people off but I exercised commonsense. I didn't want to see a proliferation of red and yellow cards."

"I think all that has happened is that over the last few years we have become a bit relaxed about the laws."

WHEEL POWER — World champion Florian Rousseau of France (left) retained his one-km time trial to take the first gold of the championships. He clocked one minute 03.163 seconds to beat American Erin Hartwell (middle) by six-tenths of a second and Australian Shane Kelly, last

year's silver medallist, who came in third. Twice world sprint champion Michael Haeberle of Germany fought back into the second round via a second-chance heat after losing to Latvia's Vilius Berzins in the first round. He beat Belgian Erik Schoofs.

Olympic foes face semifinal duel

PALERMO, Sicily (R) — Britain's Olympic champion Chris Boardman and German Jens Lehmann, the man to beat in Barcelona, face a showdown in the semifinals of 4,000 metres world cycling pursuit championships.

The two rivals scored com-

fortable quarter-final victories on Monday, with Boardman posting the fastest time of the round despite a stomach bug and a broken spoke.

Boardman's first run was halted after half a lap because he broke a front-wheel spoke, but the Briton, who had been suffering with intestinal trouble, raced ahead after the restart to beat Spain's Juan Martinez by nearly four seconds.

"I was scheduled to try for a 4:28 time but I was feeling so much better I gave it a go," he said.

He clocked four minutes, 25.801 seconds, the fastest of the quarter-finals that also saw the dismissal of last

year's world silver medallist Philippe Ermelant of France.

He was beaten by compatriot Francis Moreau the 1991 world professional champion who meets Guido Fulst of Germany in Tuesday's semifinals.

World champion Graeme Obree of Britain was sensationaly disqualified in Monday's qualifying round after posting the third-fastest time.

After eight hours of argument over saddle sizes on Sunday, Obree ran into trouble midway through his qualifying race, but the Briton, who had been suffering with intestinal trouble, raced ahead after the restart to beat Spain's Juan Martinez by nearly four seconds.

"I was told one hour before the start that there must be a certain clearance between my chest and the handlebars. No distance was given, and it was like a high jump without the bar. It is all pretty vague, but I knew that they were out to get me."

Obree said: "I was told one hour before the start that there must be a certain clearance between my chest and the handlebars. No distance was given, and it was like a high jump without the bar. It is all pretty vague, but I knew that they were out to get me."

Physically, despite a couple of injuries, Jackson believes he is in comparable shape to last year when he set the world record at the Stuttgart World Championships.

Technically, he thinks he has improved following intensive work on his approach to the final four barriers.

Jackson attempts own world record

ZURICH (R) — World high hurdles champion Colin Jackson plans further strides towards the elusive perfection he is constantly seeking with an attempt on his own world record at Wednesday's Zurich Grand Prix.

Jackson retained his European title last week in Helsinki and should successfully defend his Commonwealth crown in Victoria, Canada, next week.

Two other world record attempts have been signalled in a meeting which this year boasts a budget of around \$4,000,000.

The outrageously talented Nouredin Morceli, holder of world marks at 1,500 and 3,000 metres as well as the mile, steps up to the 5,000, while Jackie Joyner-Kersee attacks the women's long jump record.

No pacemaker has been nominated for the 5,000 but the field contains a group of the top Kenyans plus Olympic 10,000 champion Khalid Stah.

"There are a number of people in the race who could break the world record," Morceli said.

The meeting should also decide once and for all who is the world's number one male 100 metres sprinter this year.

All the big names have entered with the exception of Carl Lewis and the size of the entry list has necessitated three heats and a final.

Two rounds will suit Britain's world and Olympic champion Linford Christie who missed a confrontation with the top Americans at the St. Petersburg goodwill games because of a hamstring injury.

Christie might not be as sharp as he would like but with some justice he thinks he is still the strongest man in the field.

But Tuesday may just prove the day Dennis Mitchell comes of age.

Mitchell would dearly like to reheat his Goodwill Games victory over fellow-Americans Leroy Burrell and Andre Cason and prove he is capable of winning.

Parma's title hopes depend on Asprilla, Baggio

ROME (R) — Parma's hopes of capping a meteoric rise to the top of Italian soccer by winning a first league title depend on the fortunes of two stars who experienced vastly different World Cup fortunes.

Colombian Faustino Asprilla — arguably the biggest flop of the World Cup — and Italy star Dino Baggio, who enhanced his reputation as a combative midfielder, have the talent to make Parma the main threat to AC Milan's bid for a record-tying fourth league title.

But Parma coach Nevio Scala knows neither player has shown his true colours in the league — and must be wondering if either can ever will.

Asprilla, 24, a sleek and gifted striker, faces a make-or-break season at the helm of Parma's attack after failing to live up to high expectations at the World Cup.

Baggio, a tall midfielder who scored key goals as Italy took the runners-up spot to Brazil in the U.S., must now prove he can perform week in week out in the Serie A after his summer move from Juventus.

Troubled by a series of injuries, Baggio had a poor season with Juventus last year. Parma are his fourth club in five seasons and he has never really reproduced his Italian form at league level.

Parma, a second-division club just five years ago, have skyrocketed to the top of European soccer after winning the Italian Cup in 1992,

the Cup Winners' Cup in 1993 and the European Super Cup in 1994.

They finished fifth last year — nine points behind Milan — after failing to maintain sparkling early form.

As they prepare for another assault on the title, Asprilla and Baggio may hold the key to the final crowning glory of Parma's rise, but Scala can rely on a galaxy of stars.

"I've never had a better group of players," Scala said recently referring to deals which have given him a host of international stars to pick from.

Defense looks the strongest department with Italy defender Roberto Misi, signed from Torino during the World Cup, facing a battle for a first-team Jersey.

Portuguese defender Fernando Couto, who signed from Porto at the end of last season, complements a backline including sweeper Lorenzo Minotti and Italy team mate Luigi Apolloni.

Alberto di Chiara and Antonio Benarivo, who had a fine World Cup, promise speed on both flanks.

The midfield also looks as strong as any in the Serie A.

Baggio, set to direct play with Italy defender Roberto Misi, signed from Torino during the World Cup, facing a battle for a first-team Jersey.

Portuguese defender Fernando Couto, who signed from Porto at the end of last season, complements a backline including sweeper Lorenzo Minotti and Italy team mate Luigi Apolloni.

"I was plagued by injury last year and never got into

the groove," the 23-year-old said recently. "Parma have promised I will play at midfield and not as a defender, where Juventus kept me and where I am not happy."

The arrival of striker Marco Branca, who scored 14 goals for relegated Udinese last year, has bolstered the attack and will ensure Asprilla and Sardinian Gianfranco Zola face competition for their starting roles.

The Colombian, scorer of seven goals in his debut season and 10 last year, has been criticised for selfish play and lack of killer instinct in the area.

Some players, let alone fans, see Asprilla, who cut his soccer teeth at Nacional Medellin, as the sole question mark hanging over an otherwise solid squad.

"Faustino wasn't consistent last year and a true champion cannot allow himself such ups and downs," said Brolin.

"We have a 50 per cent

chance of winning the title. If Asprilla comes through, then the entire squad will reap the benefits," he said.

Scala has said he wants Asprilla, who has had to defend himself from rumours of heavy drinking and wild behaviour off the field, more concentrated during training.

Asprilla, who quit international soccer after the murder of team mate Andres Escobar for scoring an own goal in Colombia's early exit from the World Cup, has vowed to prove his mettle.

"I had a bad season last year," he confessed recently. "But I'm more ready than ever to prove I can rise to the occasion."

If Parma win their first title, Asprilla will dedicate it to Escobar, the defender who was shot dead outside a restaurant in his native Medellin.

"I want to play great soccer, to win the title and dedicate it to Escobar and his family."

Carr awaits reversal of fortune

VICTORIA, British Columbia (R) — Scotland's featherweight boxing medal prospect Brian Carr is hoping for a change of luck when he steps into the ring at the Commonwealth Games.

At the recent World Cup in Thailand, the Glaswegian was forced to withdraw after being asked to fight Olympic champion Joel Casamayor only two hours after arriving.

Carr was unfortunate to be beaten in his first fight at the 1992 Barcelona Olympics by the eventual silver medalist from Spain, and is now waiting impatiently for the chance to show his true talent in a Scottish vest.

"I'm due a good draw," said Carr, a five-times Scottish champion and a gold medalist at the Commonwealth invitation tournament in Victoria last year.

"I was plagued by injury last year and never got into

Players' union boss condemns foreign influx

LONDON (AFP) — Players' union chief Gordon Taylor hit out here on Monday at the influx of cheap foreign talent flooding into the English game.

Taylor warned that big-money transfers, like Chris Sutton's 5 million pounds move from Norwich to Blackburn, were inflating the market, forcing less well-off clubs to look abroad for cheaper options.

This increasing trend, Taylor warned, could be damaging to the long-term interests of the England team.

Taylor, chief executive of the Professional Footballers' Association, suggested a cap on transfer fees to end the spiralling inflation that he sees as threatening the national game.

"I am not a harbinger of doom — but it may be that every team has to have eight Italians in it," said Taylor.

"We don't have that rule problem. Only half of Manchester United's team in the Charity Shield were English. If the money goes abroad, and doesn't go to clubs like Crewe, who groomed David Platt, or Torquay, who produced Lee Sharpe, then the long-term consequences for our game could be detrimental. It will become like our cricket — we can no longer produce our own fast bowlers."

Before they left home the team had several sparing sessions with the Scandinavian team to give the fighters more exposure.

"Players who come in need to be regular internationals, they need to be in the top band of wages, and the fee needs to reflect a world-class player."

Konyshov and Scinto at one stage built up a lead of three minutes and 25 seconds before the peloton, led by a mixed team of Dutch racers, fought to claw back the gap.

Tour de France green Jersey winner Djambourov of Uzbekistan proved his sprinting qualities again when he won the stage sprint and ended third overall as he led the pack home.

Konyshov wears the leaders' orange Jersey in Tuesday's 180-km second stage from Nieuwgein to Ede. The tour ends on August 19 in Valkenburg.

Konyshov wins first stage of Netherlands Tour

NIEUWGEIN, Netherlands (R) — Russian Dmitry Konyshov secured his first of the season when he outprinted Luca Scinto on Monday to clinch the opening stage of the Tour of the Netherlands, which was marred by a crash involving a motorcycle outsider.

Konyshov and Italian Scinto succeeded in breaking away from the pack, led for 85 kilometres of the 170 kilometres stage from Breda to Nieuwgein, and held off the chasing riders to finish 23 seconds ahead.

The stage had to be shortened by seven kilometres after a motorcycle escort was involved in a serious collision with a two-race ban for ignoring a black flag at the British Grand Prix.

Benetton have claimed consistently that they do not believe the removal of a filter from their rig was the cause of the fire, as Intertechique and the International Motor

Federation (FIA) said in statement last week.

Benetton have been summoned to appear before the FIA's World Motor Sport Council on Oct. 19 to defend themselves against a charge that they illegally and deliberately removed the filter.

The team also faces an appeal on behalf of German Michael Schumacher against a two-race ban for ignoring a black flag at the British Grand Prix.

Benetton's latest statement in a war of words with governing body FIA said that the Independent Accident Analysis Company which the team invited to look into the accident had been refused drawings of Intertechique's

Benetton claim fuel blaze caused by faulty part

BUDAPEST (R) — A faulty part in the refuelling rig used by Benetton caused the fatal fire which engulfed Jos Verstappen at the German Grand Prix, the team said on Sunday.

In a statement which contradicted the claims made by Intertechique, the French manufacturers of the refuelling equipment used by all the teams, Benetton said "the most likely cause of the fire at Hockenheim was a faulty part in the refuelling valve."

Benetton have claimed consistently that they do not believe the removal of a filter from their rig was the

Sports

JORDAN TIMES, WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 17, 1994 11

Australians feel pressure before Commonwealth games

VICTORIA, British Columbia (R) — Australian swimmers are under pressure from within their own team as well as their rivals before Commonwealth Games competition starts on Friday.

As overwhelming favourites in the pool, the Australians are being targeted by the other swimming nations as the squad to beat.

But they also have to watch their backs for their own teammates could deprive them of a coveted place in the line-up for the world championships in Rome next month.

"Whoever gets the bronze in the 1,500 is likely to feel really upset," said world record holder Kieren Perkins on Monday.

Three top Australian are entered for the 1,500 metres freestyle, but only two will qualify for Italy.

Olympic champion Perkins said he remained good friends with Olympic silver medalist Glen Housman and the world short course champion Dan Kowalski out of the water.



Carlos Parreira

I'm not stubborn, says Parreira

RIO DE JANEIRO (R) — Carlos Alberto Parreira, who guided Brazil to victory in the World Cup last month, denied on Monday that he was stubborn and that outspoken striker Romario had been given special treatment during the competition.

He denied there had been special treatment for temperamental striker Romario.

"At no moment was Romario a star. When (Diego) Maradona goes to the cup he takes a psychologist, dietist, his wife and children, all staying in the team's headquarters. Romario never demanded privileges."

Parreira blamed the eternal criticism of his management, which began with a 2-0 qualifying defeat in La Paz and continued until the day of the final, on press coverage.

"The population is an echo without its own opinion, it just reflects what it hears," he said.

dollars," he said.

Parreira eventually appeared saying the words: "I'm persistent, I've said it from the start," two of his favourite catchphrases during the World Cup.

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"The population is an echo without its own opinion, it just reflects what it hears," he said.

European championships searching for identity

HELSINKI, Finland (AP) — There was a time when the European Championships was a major track and field meet and Europeans dominated the races and field events. The Olympics were held every four years and there were no world championships.

Now, the world championships are held every two years and American sprinters and jumpers and African distance runners hold most of the world records.

The European meet is rapidly becoming outshone by meets offering money rather than prestige. Even the world championships offered a car to the winners in 1993 and will repeat the gift-giving in Goteborg, Sweden, in 1995.

In this year's European meet, only a few world class marks were produced.

Slow races dominated Sunday's finals.

Russia's Ludmila Rogachova won the slowest 1,500-final in European championships history with 4 minutes 18.93 seconds.

The women's 1,500 runners looked like they were setting out for a marathon rather than the hue-ribbon race. Fans at the soldout Olympic stadium jeered the slow-paced runners during the first laps.

"What a race first I thought that we're walkers," said Rogachova.

The women weren't alone with slow times on the final day.

In the men's 5,000-metre final, Olympic champion Dieter Baumann's winning time of 13:36.93 was almost 40 seconds off the world record.

The 800-metres went to Italian Andrea Beneventi in 1:46.12, almost three seconds slower than the season's best.

Earlier in the week, world champions such as Linford

Commonwealth Games magnet for activists

VICTORIA, Canada (AFP)

— The friendly games are under fire, but Commonwealth Games organisers hope their focus on native cultures and environmental concerns will neutralise protests planned for the 11-day event.

The environmental group Greenpeace is planning demonstrations to protest the exploitation of the rain forests of Vancouver Island, where the games are taking place.

Organisers have billed the games as environmentally friendly. They have set up a highly publicised recycling programme and their mascot is a cartoon killer whale.

But Greenpeace spokesman Tamara Stark called those efforts "greenwashing."

"It's disturbing and doesn't paint an accurate picture of what is going on," she said. "The war on the woods is continuing, and we'll be doing everything we can to ensure the public doesn't buy into their message."

Logging is an especially explosive topic here, since it is the basis of the area's economy.

But activists are planning demonstrations about issues ranging from protection of

the oceans to women's poverty.

"I'm not worried about it," said Games Society President George Heller. "They have every right to demonstrate, but they can do it without interfering."

Even Queen Elizabeth II's appearance at the opening ceremonies on Thursday is an opportunity for protesters, coming amid a groundswell of Canadian opposition to the games.

A recent poll showed a majority of Canadians favour severing ties with the British royal family.

The very nature of the Commonwealth, the legacy of British colonialism, is enough to inspire some protesters.

"We're against oppression and colonialism is definitely a part of that," said a spokesman for the Friends of Clayquot Sound group. "That's why we have no problem targeting the Commonwealth."

"It's disturbing and doesn't paint an accurate picture of what is going on," she said. "The war on the woods is continuing, and we'll be doing everything we can to ensure the public doesn't buy into their message."

Logging is an especially explosive topic here, since it is the basis of the area's economy.

A flotilla of dugout canoes will deliver the Queen's Baton, the symbol of the games, to Victoria harbour, and native drawings will

embellish the medals.

"Everything we're doing has just ballooned recently, response is wonderful and this thing is getting huge," said Sabba Sall, communications coordinator of the native participant committee of the games.

At the Lau Wel New Cultural Village, aboriginal peoples from throughout the Commonwealth will showcase their own art, music and food.

But at least one headache was resolved last week when striking city workers agreed to submit their dispute to binding arbitration and go back to work.

City officials and organisers had started to worry that more than 3,300 competitors from 67 countries arriving for the games would be greeted by week's worth of uncollected garbage.

On Friday, that fear was laid to rest when union chief Colin Graham said: "We have visitors coming. Our house is a little bit messy. We have to tidy it up."

In fact, native cultures of Canada and other Commonwealth countries will be celebrated at the games.

But activists are planning demonstrations about issues ranging from protection of

chief industry in the picturesque city, where an atmosphere of 19th century England pervades.

So far ticket sales to actual sports events have been slow, but organisers say they have covered their costs.

Lorne Whyte, chief executive of Victoria's tourist board, said the games were expected to produce nearly \$50 million Canadian dollars (\$36 million) in increased tourism revenues this year.

The worldwide television audience could reach 300 million, and in Canada itself television coverage has received a boost from the major league baseball strike.

The lack of baseball games means Canadian TV will air six extra hours of games action.

In competition, Australia is widely expected to head the charge for gold, led by a powerful swimming squad. Canada is hoping the home advantage will boost their tally.

South Africa returns to the Commonwealth fold after an absence of 36 years. They last competed in the 1958 games in Wales.

Hong Kong will be bidding farewell to the games. The British colony reverts to China after 1997.

Rana's interest in shooting began when he watched his father N.S. Rana, a former commando trainer for the prime minister's Special Protection Group, at work with 9mm carbines.

His first brush with limelight came in 1987, when he won a silver medal at the Delhi state championships.

At the last national championships, he won five gold medals. In recent shooting trials he trounced veteran Ashok Pandit, who is here to defend the Commonwealth Games title he won in the centre-fire pistol in 1990.

Pandit, 40, who has a construction business in Bombay, also helped India win a team bronze in Auckland and is determined that any medal Rana wins here will not be at his expense.

Coach has work cut out with pistol prodigy

VICTORIA, Canada (AFP) — Indian shooting coach Sunny Thomas is busy performing a delicate balancing act with pistol prodigy Jaspal Rana, his chief medal hope at the Commonwealth Games.

Thomas is trying to ensure that Rana stays focused on winning a title while keeping the pressure of sky-high home expectations from affecting the teenager, who is taking part in three shooting events here.

"I have been keeping a close watch on him since we came here almost a week ago from Italy," Thomas, 52, a former national shooting champion, said Monday.

"I have been trying to keep him in good humour, joking with him, trying to get him to relax after the training sessions," he said. "I want him to be in the best mental and physical condition when the competition starts."

"His nature is basically not that of an introvert and I don't want him to start brooding and get himself down."

Thomas, who is on a sabbatical from his career as a teacher of English literature, has been busy playing nursemaid to Rana since he shot to fame with a junior gold medal at the world championships in Milan, Italy, last month.

The 18-year-old was immediately touted as a sporting idol on par with India's popular cricketers and champion in Victoria and the Asian Games in Hiroshima next September.

"If you let pressure affect you, you can't shoot," Rana said at Heals Range, the shooting venue where competition gets underway Friday.

"My main job has been to keep him away from people,

to see that such adulation does not get to his head," Thomas said. "I begged the press not to put pressure on him. So much pressure is not good for someone so young."

Rana, a sophomore at New Delhi's St. Stephen's College, relaxes by playing patience with a set of cards at the athletes' village when he is not practising on the shooting range.

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NEWS IN BRIEF

King Hussein to visit France, Germany

AMMAN (AFP) — King Hussein is to visit France and Germany later this month. The King, who last visited France in July 1993 and Germany in March 1992, begins his trip on Aug. 26.

Adwan meets Israeli counterpart today

AMMAN (J.T.) — Minister of Tourism Mohammad Adwan will meet today with his Israeli counterpart Uzi Baram at the Israeli side of the Dead Sea, informed sources said yesterday. The ministers will discuss tourism in peace time and potential cooperation between the two countries. The meeting, which comes after Mr. Baram invited Dr. Adwan one week ago, will be the first between a Jordanian and an Israeli minister.

Japan's crown prince to tour Middle East

TOKYO (AFP) — Japan's Crown Prince Naruhito and Princess Masako are to tour the Middle East in early November and again in late January next year, a news report said Tuesday. In November, the couple is likely to visit Saudi Arabia, Oman, Qatar and Bahrain, to be followed by trips to Kuwait, the United Arab Emirates and Jordan in January. Jiji Press quoted government sources as saying. The Middle Eastern tour will be the royal couple's first trip abroad together since their marriage in June last year. The news agency said a different itinerary will be set for Princess Masako, a former career diplomat, because of religious restrictions that limit women's participation in formal ceremonies. The crown prince had planned to visit the Middle East in February 1991, but postponed the travel because of the eruption of the Gulf war. He tried to make the trip in January 1993, but it was called off again due to a tension between Iraq and the United States.

Dubai official denies he will visit Israel

MANAMA, Bahrain (AP) — Sheikh Hasher Al Maktoum, director of information for the emirate of Dubai, Tuesday denied an Israeli report that he plans to visit the Jewish state. "I was astonished to hear this news," Sheikh Hasher, a member of Dubai's ruling Al Maktoum family, said in a fax sent to the Associated Press in Bahrain by the sheikh's representatives in London, where he is currently visiting. "The story ... alleging that I have been in contact with the Israelis is untrue. I have not been in touch with them over any matter at all," he added. Eli Danon, spokesman for Israel's transport ministry, announced Sunday that Sheikh Hasher will visit Israel soon, becoming the first official from any Gulf state to do so. Mr. Danon said Sheikh Hasher will be the guest of transport minister Yisrael Kesser, but gave no date for the reported visit. Mr. Danon also said Sheikh Hasher initiated the idea in a letter to Mr. Danon said Sheikh Hasher initiated the idea in a letter to an Arab-Israeli legislator, and was interested in representing El Al, Israel's national airline, in the Gulf as he owns a travel agency in Dubai. In the statement, Sheikh Hasher said that inter-state relationships are decided by governments "and not by a government employee like me."

Israel refuses to extradite former general

TEL AVIV (AP) — Israel has informed the United States that it will not extradite a former air force officer accused of accepting millions of dollars in kickbacks from American firms, officials said Tuesday. Justice ministry spokeswoman Etty Eshed said the United States had expressed an interest in the extradition of Rami Dotan, a former brigadier general sentenced to 13 years in jail in 1991. "We have told them, before they submitted any formal extradition request, that we would not comply because he was an Israeli citizen when the crimes were carried out," she said. Gen. Dotan, who is believed to have amassed some \$10 million in bribes on defence equipment purchases, is the highest-ranking Israeli officer to be convicted of financial crimes. The Israel-U.S. extradition treaty does not include the crimes charged against Mr. Dotan, including money laundering, conspiracy, mail and wire fraud plus making false statements.

Bhutto holds talks with Emir of Qatar

DOHA (AFP) — Pakistani Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto held talks here on Tuesday with energy issues topping the agenda since Islamabad is a large consumer of Qatari oil and petrochemicals, the official agency QNA said. Ms. Bhutto met with Emir Sheikh Khalifa Ben Hamad Al Khalifa to discuss two-way cooperation as well as the Middle East peace process, the situation in the Gulf and in Pakistan and ways of boosting economic cooperation. Qatar exported \$80.3 million worth of oil and petrochemicals to Pakistan in 1992 and imported \$13.7 million of products in return. Tens of thousands of Pakistani expatriates work in Qatar and other oil-rich Gulf monarchies. Ms. Bhutto arrived Monday on a three-day visit accompanied by the foreign and labour ministers. Pakistani officials said she would return directly to Pakistan after leaving Qatar without visiting other Gulf countries, as Islamabad had previously announced.

Japan may send troops to Golan

TOKYO (AFP) — Japan is considering posting troops to the Israeli-occupied Golan Heights as part of a U.N. peace-keeping force, and may also send personnel to join U.N. operations in Rwanda, officials said Tuesday. If the move is approved, Tokyo will send an advance party to the troubled central African nation, a foreign ministry spokesman said. The International Peace Cooperation headquarters at the prime minister's office told AFP it was holding talks with the United Nations and Canada over the possibility of sending Japanese troops to the Golan to relieve the Canadian force there. In June the government of then prime minister Tsutomu Hata decided to dispatch a delegation to Canada to discuss such a move, the spokesman said. The Japanese news agency Jiji Press said Japan was ready to send a government team to the Golan Heights before the end of the month to undertake a detailed study ahead of any troop deployment. The move to dispatch troops comes after an informal U.N. request to the Japanese government last May to relieve the Canadian soldiers taking part in the U.N. disengagement Observer Force on the Golan.

Khartoum issues flood warning

KHARTOUM (AP) — The government is issuing warnings alerting residents along the White Nile and Blue Nile to possible flooding as severe as 1988 floods that caused more than \$300 million in damage. A statement by the Irrigation Ministry broadcast Monday on state radio said the Blue Nile at the Ethiopian border had risen above 12.5 metres, the level it reached in 1988 causing the worst flooding in four decades. About 120 people died of drowning or malaria resulting from the floods in August 1988. Estimates of damage to agriculture ranged from the official figure of \$364 million to more than \$1 billion. Within the past week, hundreds of families have been driven from their homes and at least eight people were killed from flooding as a result of heavy rains around Khartoum and in the western provinces of Kordofan and Darfur. Monday's announcement asked residents to be ready for orders from special operations offices set up along the river to help protect lives and property from flooding. The warning covered river areas from southern Sudan to Khartoum, where the White and Blue Niles merge, and to Dongola in the northern province.



DUAL-USE: Two men make use of refrigerators washed out by floodwaters that washed out of nearby residences in more than \$150 million and claimed 14 lives in Kaohsiung, southern Taiwan, to cross the (AFP photo) street flooded with rain water. The floods, the

Prince Hassan launches Institute of Diplomacy

AMMAN (J.T.) — His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan will head the newly established Jordanian Institute of Diplomacy as chairman of the board.

The Crown Prince has appointed Mazen Arnouti president of the institute. Dr. Arnouti will retain his job as advisor at the office of the Crown Prince.

The board of directors comprises the ministers of foreign affairs, information and planning as well as the chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, a university president, the secretary-general of the Higher Council for Science and Technology and the president of the institute in addition to independent specialists.

The institute's regulations have been approved by the Council of Ministers.

The institute was launched by Crown Prince Hassan to fill the need for an institutional framework that will systematically upgrade the performance and effectiveness of Jordanian diplomats and other personnel involved in international relations and external communication.

The institute will also conduct studies and research; collect and publish relevant literature, data and information; organise seminars to increase awareness and knowledge of international developments and events and their impact on Jordan.

The institute will establish cooperative arrangements with Jordanian and foreign universities and institutes to show visitors how the flippered leatherbacks make their way to the sea, in return for money, the newspaper quoted visitors as saying.

"Visitors are allowed to take photographs and shine torchlights as the baby turtles

struggle to the shoreline. But before they touch water, they are caught and returned to the enclosure until the next performance," a visitor said.

The visitor said that the workers would then step on the baby turtles' fins to stop them from returning to sea. Some of the turtles at the sanctuary were also kept in small containers of dirty water, he said.

"Following the attack on

the patrol on Aug. 12 the Iraqi authorities immediately took

swift measures to pursue

those responsible for the

attack and capture them,"

the official daily Al Jumhuriyah said, quoting a Foreign

Ministry spokesman.

"The Iraqi liaison body with UNIKOM (United Nations Iraq-Kuwait Observer Mission) has made continuous contacts with the UNIKOM leaders to genuinely handle and contain the incident. Iraq confirms Iraqi concern in cooperation with UNIKOM to maintain peace and security in the region,"

the spokesman said.

A Bangladeshi officer was

shot dead and two soldiers

were wounded in the ambush

on Friday night on the Iraqi

side of the border. Baghdad blamed smugglers for the

attack.

U.N. officials are still investigating and have not ruled out the possibility that criminals might be to blame.

The spokesman said the

incident should not be exploited for political ends.

"Iraq reiterates once more

its refusal of any attempt by

other known parties (a reference to Kuwait and the United States) to use this regrettable incident for their dubious and disgraceful political ends," he said.

Baghdad's pledge to

cooperate with the U.N. for

peace in the area underlines

Iraq's willingness to solve its

border dispute with Kuwait,

which it invaded in 1990.

The U.N. imposed an

embargo on Baghdad to pun

ish it for the invasion. Iraqi

recognition of Kuwait's

sovereignty within the new

borders is crucial for the eas

ing of the embargo.

Iraq said it recognised

the Serb assembly will

meet Thursday to discuss

latest developments and

name a new "government"

two weeks after Belgrade —

under a U.N. embargo for its

support for the Bosnian Serbs

(Continued on page 3)

Papal nuncio presents credentials to Weizman

TEL AVIV (AP) — The Vatican's first envoy to the Jewish state presented his credentials Tuesday to the Israeli President, who chided him for the long delay in establishing ties.

Archbishop Andrea Cordero Lanza di Montecelmo, 68, who holds the title of papal nuncio, which is equivalent to ambassador, took up his post following the establishment of diplomatic ties last Dec. 30.

"I think that the Pope, the Vatican, have realised it's high time to talk to the state of Israel and talk to the Jews through the state of Israel. It's a little late, but better late than never," president Weizman said at the official credentials ceremony.

Israel's envoy to the Vatican, Shmuel Hadas, met with Pope John Paul II earlier this year. Foreign ministry officials said he was expected to present his credentials this fall.

The Vatican diplomat was born in Turin, Italy, in 1925 and was ordained a priest in 1954.

He has served as apostolic delegate in Jerusalem since April 1990.

In addition to becoming an ambassador to Israel, the prelate is the Vatican representative to Cyprus as well as to the Palestinians both under self-rule and under Israeli occupation.

After refusing for years to recognise the Jewish state, the Vatican began moving to establish relations after the start of the U.S.-brokered Middle East peace process in 1991.

The Vatican ambassador has said in the past that the Holy See hopes "to assist in facilitating both directly and indirectly in the peace process."

The Vatican, long active in international peace efforts, hopes to play a role in resolving Middle East tension. It also has an interest in who controls the Christian holy site in Jerusalem.

The new ties raised concern among other Christian denominations.

Serb military calls for attacks to kill peace plan

BELGRADE (AP) — Bosnian Serb army chief of staff General Milan Gvero on Tuesday called on Serb separatists to fight an international peace plan for Bosnia because it deprives Serbs of their rights.

"A resolute and just struggle is the only logical response" to the peace plan which "deprives Serbs of their rights," Gen. Gvero said in a statement on Bosnian Serb television, carried Tuesday by the Belgrade newspaper Bora.

If Serbs accepted the blueprint, territories they hold would have to be returned, which would lead to an "easy breakup" of the self-styled Serb republic in Bosnia-Herzegovina.

Gen. Gvero's stand is in line with statements by the separatist Serb political leadership.

Momcilo Krajisnik, speaker of the Serbs' self-styled par-

liament, said Tuesday the

commander of the Bosnian

Serb forces, Gen. Ratko Mladić, had voiced clear support for the Serb leadership, Beta news agency here reported.

Statements by Gen. Gvero

and Mr. Krajisnik follow

press reports that Gen. Mladić

had so far failed to take a

public stand on the peace

plan submitted by an international contact group.

Under the peace plan the

Serbs who now control 70 per

cent of Bosnia-Herzegovina

would be given 49 per cent,

with the Muslim-Croat fed-

eration getting the remain-

der.

The Serb assembly will

meet Thursday to discuss

latest developments and

name a new "government"

two weeks after Belgrade —

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support for the Bosnian Serbs

(Continued on page 3)

structure damaged by the war.

President Ali Abdullah Saleh has estimated his country's war losses at \$7.5 billion.

A U.N. inter-agency mission, which left Yemen on July 30 after touring southern provinces, quoted the governor of Shabwa as saying 23,000 mines were laid in residential districts and areas considered vital by the military.

The appeal, launched in Sanaa, New York and Geneva, said \$2.75 million were needed to cover the immediate needs of 375,000 people displaced by the war.

The war in Yemen, which started on May 4, ended when loyalist government forces crushed a separatist breakaway state in the south and seized its declared capital Aden on July 4.

U.N. spokesman Fadi Friji said in a statement that the Holy See hopes "to assist in facilitating both directly and indirectly in the peace process."

The Vatican, long active in international peace efforts, hopes to play a role in resolving Middle East tension. It also has an interest in who controls the Christian holy site in Jerusalem.

The new ties raised concern among other Christian denominations.

The amount does not cover the cost of the reconstruction and rehabilitation of infra-

vital water and electricity supplies to Aden and Abyan, areas where some of the worst effects of the crisis were registered. Health, water and sanitation, food aid and agriculture, education, children in especially difficult circumstances and demining are the technical sectors for which international assistance is urgently requested.

"While the combined effects of steady economic decline and the recent crisis have created critical needs over the medium and long term periods, this appeal focuses on the most urgent requirements for 375,000 persons through February 1995. Taking into account relief assistance already provided by the government and relief organisations, emergency programme proposals put forth in the appeal total US\$21,715,240," it said.

Even before the recent civil conflict, the economy of the Republic of Yemen was in a precarious state. With a per capita G